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# PERENJOY

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### EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

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#### PSYCHIC COMMON SENSE

A lecture given at Serenity Spiritualist Church on June 3, 1973 through the Mediumship of Richard P. Goodwin

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#### PSYCHIC COMMON SENSE

A lecture given at Serenity Spiritualist Church on June 3, 1973 through the Mediumship of Richard P. Goodwin

The topic that has been chosen for this evening's service is "Psychic Common Sense." In this day there appears to be such a great interest in these realms unseen, so to speak. So much is written in these days concerning what is called sensitives, mediums, psychics, clairvoyants, and so forth. But what is psychic and where does the common sense of it fit into our daily acts and activities? It has been stated many times by those from this other dimension that every soul impulsed into this earth realm is spirit covered with the form known as soul, has the innate potential of viewing and hearing these so-called spiritual dimensions. Every human being is psychic to some extent, but of what benefit would being psychic be to anyone unless they know the laws governing the phenomena, the science, so that they may ever remain in control of the things that they view, that they receive and that they hear

Many people with an interest in the psychic sciences start their investigations with a variety of books, teachings and understandings. We accept and realize that whatever we attract indeed is within us and experienced without. Now, my good friends, if utilizing this so-called psychic power brings a greater understanding to you, brings a greater awakening of the true purpose of your soul's incarnation and in so doing, helps you to live a better life, to be a better person, to enjoy the true freedom of your own spirit, then obviously there is some sense, common or otherwise, in your interest and in your unfoldment. If using this psychic sense does not bring you peace, harmony, joy and fulfillment of purpose then, my good friends, it is no benefit to you. It would be much wiser to sit at home and to view the variety of programs that are telecast over your television set, for the psychic dimensions are not there for people with common sense to view them like a movie.

Everyone experiences some type of psychic phenomena. For example, man goes to sleep at night, usually. He loses or sets aside a conscious awareness of the things around and about him; however, he often recalls certain dreams. We agree and are in accord that most dreams are nothing more than the expression of suppressed desires but there are dreams that are seemingly prophetic. Now, one could say that-that is simply a self-prophecy. And indeed that may be true, if the prophecy is for the individual. But when it is a prophecy concerning someone that they know and they do not tell that person and that prophecy comes to pass, then seemingly it is prophetic and it is a living demonstration to the individual of another dimension (Continued on Page 4)

# (Continued from Page 3)

which is commonly known as "psychic." People experience certain feelings and intuitions, they call them. They know they should go here or they shouldn't go there. Some people even know which horse to bet on at the races and they call that some kind of impulse or impression that they receive. Where do they receive it from, my friends? Not from the physical, material dimension, not from the mind, for the mind is not capable of knowing forthcoming events. The mind itself is only a vehicle through which this Divine Spirit is expressing itself. It gathers up information. It knows whatever facts are fed into it. It is the soul that knows what has been, what truly is and what is yet to be. For the only part of us—this so-called body—that is eternal is this Divine Spirit that expresses through what is known as individualized soul. And that, and that part of us alone, is the only part that knows what has been, what is, and what is going to be.

So let us pause to think with our interest in psychic phenomena. Let us ask ourselves the question, "What laws are governing these experiences and why is it that I cannot have these experiences when I, myself, choose to have them?" So many people have these spontaneous psychic experiences but they have no control over them. They cannot sit down in a chair and prepare themselves that they may be receptive to certain dimensions in an organized, systematized way. My friends, if we cannot control that that we are interested in, that that we are interested in will soon control us.

Spiritualism is a philosophy, religion and science that strives to help mankind to awaken himself to his own divinity. It has no creed to offer the interested seeker and it has no dogma, because it knows beyond the shadow of any doubt that each and every individual has the Divine birthright to express their own soul, to find what man calls God and the Spiritualists call Infinite Intelligence, in his or her own way. We try to share in this Association the understanding of the Divine Laws that we have become receptive to and have and are able to some extent to demonstrate, for no teaching in no time is valuable to any person who is not able to demonstrate it. If we are not able to apply in our daily lives the things that we learn, then why bother to waste the time to learn them. Let us use this mind, the soul faculty of reason that we have. Let us weigh all things and accept what is good for us, always remembering that in our mind yesterday's good is not always tomorrow's. If it were, man would not progress, man would not be changing, and when we don't change and progress, we stagnate and fall behind. When the sciences known as the psychic are properly used and demonstrated, they bring not only to mankind, but to he or she who uses them, a greater awakening of their own soul.

Spiritualism uses the public demonstration of spiritual communication for the sole purpose of interesting people who are seeking something greater than the (Continued on Page 29)



# Book Review

### "BOOK ON MEDIUMS"

or

"GUIDE FOR MEDIUMS AND INVOCATORS" by Allan Kardec, translated by Emma A. Wood Health Research, Mokelumne Hill, California Reviewed by Dorothy Craine

Allan Kardec was a writer in 19th century France, whose works are the basis of South American Spiritism, a word used in South America for the study of spirit communication and healing. In spite of repression by the official church, Allan Kardec's clear, concise, reasonable works have raised the level of awareness of South American seekers. Formerly the primitive occult understanding was in the class of killing a black rooster at the crossroads at midnight and of casting spells. Nowadays, especially in Brazil, the levels of mediumship and awareness are very high.

For those of you who like to read a lot, this book is a lot to read. It is a modern reprint covering every possible question on mediumship and the nature of spirits. Included are physical manifestations, direct writing, identity of spirits, invocations, charlatanism, and the role of spirit communication in modern life. The material in this book is presented as an entire science, an entire philosophy, and touches on all the questions that interest humanity.

As the fittest mode for a serious study, the book is organized into numbered paragraphs in such a manner that the answer to any question one might have within the subjects of the chapter headings can readily be found.

The spirit doctrine has all the characteristics of admirable law. Thought is one of the attributes of spirit so the possibility of communication is neither supernatural or marvelous. No science is acquired without time and study. This treatise on demonstrated spiritism touches on the gravest questions of philosophy and furthers our understanding immeasurably.

#### JOY IS HAVING-NOT WANTING

by Tiffany O'Hara

Once upon a time there was a little girl who really loved God. She was about 8 years old and lived on a farm in the country, far away from town or even the next farm. As it happened, she was an only child and because of the distance from town or neighboring children, she was resolved to play alone. Her favorite pastime was dolls but because her family was very poor, she had only two—both the most humble, homemade kind. The little girl saw only that they were beautiful and counted herself lucky to have a pair instead of just one.

Life was simple on her farm; after school she worked hard helping with the chores. But there was always plenty to eat, enough fire wood to keep the house warm and most important, hers was a cheerful, loving family. The little girl felt that truly there was nothing more she could ask of God to make her life happier.

Then, one day, a distant great-uncle came to visit. The man was very well-traveled and a successful business man. Yet, for all his worldly achievement, he did not seem to be a very happy person. Although he believed that there was some intelligence of a godly nature in the universe, he didn't think it was a personal kind. He teased the little girl for her blind trust and love in God. The child's faith was so strong that she could not be angry, upset or in any way disenchanted with her uncle or his great disregard for her beliefs. The uncle, noting this about the child, was quite astonished and impressed; however, he persisted in teasing her all the more.

One day he said to her, "If your God is so great, why don't you ask him for 1,000 dolls?" The little girl considered what he had suggested and then easily replied. "All right, Uncle, I will." A week later the uncle found her playing by the fireside with her two, homemade dolls. "Are these the only dolls you have?" he asked. "Yes, Uncle," she replied. A smile played at the man's lips. "I thought you asked your God for 1,000 dolls," he said. "I did," she replied. "Well, what happened to them?" asked her uncle.

The little girl fixed him with a very practical look, "He told me that I couldn't have them!"

\*

"Happiness is a sunbeam which may pass through a thousand bosoms without losing a particle of its original ray; nay, when it strikes a kindred heart, like the converged light upon a mirror, it reflects itself with redoubled brightness. It is not perfected till it is shared."

# Student's Corner

#### SCIENTISTS



by Easter Jestadt

What was life? Could it be described? Was it merely an arrangement of molecules some of which were so infinitesimally minute and could it only be seen as a pinhead under a microscopic eye?

What was life? Did anyone know? Where was the actual point whence it sprang, where it kindled itself? Where was the beginning?

If there was anything that might be said about it, it was this. It was in the simplest living organism—in every blade of grass, in every leaf the protein amoeba found its home. In the last analysis it was. And from out of the formless it became form.

They tried to close the gap between life and inanimate nature through hypothesis. It was a seeking—a provision for the missing link between the organic and the inorganic, the form and the formless. With shame and confusion they discovered no valid scientific explanation.

It was a miracle.

by Hazel Field

While glancing through the pamphlet, "Healing Prayer," by Robert McDonald, Past President—NSAC, my eyes were directed to the last page: "To be truly conscious of power is to be conscious of the one great force of the universe. The minor notes in the universe all blend together to make the one great chord of harmony. God is the directive Intelligence behind all expression. Love, Power, God, three mighty notes in the rising scale of the song of truly healthful, spiritual living. Say them over and over again and rise to new heights of truly balanced spiritual understanding." The word 'notes' brought to mind one of my favorite pastimes—singing.

How very moving these words are, for to be in harmony with the universe is our true purpose in this life. We are all a part of the one Great Oversoul and when we find the responsibility that we are to do in this life, we will be truly able to make life a more pleasant way and this world will have peace, harmony, and Divine love.

Like the notes on a sheet of music, all of us together will make harmony—spiritually, mentally, and physically, and grow to heights unlimited.

### THE FUNDAMENTAL FACTS OF SPIRITUALISM

by A. Campbell Holms

Continued from last issue-

The following quotation is from a description of one of her seances given by Alfred Russel Wallace, F.R.S., in his "Miracles and Modern Spiritualism," p. 162:-"The most remarkable feature of this lady's mediumship is the production of flowers and fruits in closed rooms. The first time this occurred was at my own house, at a very early stage of her development. All present were my own friends. Miss Nichol had come early to tea, it being mid-winter, and she had been with us in a very warm, gas-lighted room for hours before the flowers appeared. The essential fact is that, upon a bare table in a small room, closed and dark (the adjoining room and passage being well lighted), a quantity of flowers appeared, which were not there when we put out the gas a few minutes before. They consisted of anemones, tulips, chrysanthemums, Chinese primroses, and several ferns, All were absolutely fresh, as if just gathered from a conservatory. They were covered with a fine cold dew. Not a petal was crumpled or broken, not the most delicate point or pinnule of the ferns was out of place. Similar phenomena have occurred hundreds of times since in many houses and under various conditions. Sometimes the flowers have been in vast quantities, heaped upon the table. Often flowers or fruits asked for are brought. A friend of mind asked for a sunflower, and one six feet high fell upon the table, having a large mass of earth about its roots."

### DIRECT VOICE

In the presence of a suitable medium, spirits can talk in a voice which does not proceed from the medium. This is known as the 'direct or independent voice.' They may speak in the tones of robust manhood or the thin treble of a child, accents, whether Scotch, Irish or American, being truthfully rendered. With most mediums the voice only occurs in perfect darkness. Spirit friends usually find difficulty in speaking for the first time, and consequently their voice may be whispering and indistinct, as conversation proceeds it improves, and if the sittings are repeated it may become recognizable. To assist weak speakers a trumpet or megaphone is provided, which magnifies the voice.

The spirits usually indicate their presence in the room by moving the trumpet about and touching the sitters with it, its movements being seen in the dark by coating it with luminous paint. Sometimes luminous faces are faintly seen in the dark, and floating spirit lights. If the conditions are good and there are several sitters, all sorts of conversations with spirit friends may be heard. Different spirits (Continued on Page 14)

# Visitors Views



"This was my first time here and it was beautiful and very unusual. I'm rather shocked right now so this will be short."

"To find a way to help people (myself included) to be obedient, we all truly like discipline and it is so easy to be lazy. One can read, study and have meditation but unless we are faithful naught is gained and we just continue to repeat past mistakes over and over. Thank you for the opportunity in sharing your company and spirit."

B. Mc.

"I came today because I met one of your very fine members socially. I was much impressed with her as a person and felt she had something many people lack. I was much impressed with the inner serenity evident throughout the service and with the message given me through Mr. Goodwin. Your church and your people are warm. Thank you."

"Very enjoyable-makes me more curious."

"Yes!"

"I would like at some time to study with your group." G. S.

"Very good, interesting and thought provoking." J. R.

"Thank you for giving me the opportunity to become more aware. Now it's up to me."

"I enjoyed the sincerity and simpleness of the service. The smiling faces and relaxed atmosphere and especially the open friendliness of everyone attending and participating in the service."

"I've been very interested in 'Psychic News' and enjoyed Mr. Goodwin immensely." R. T.

"Your services have completely caused a reversal of some opinions. This is what I have been seeking." Vic R.

"I would like to know more."

#### SPIRITUALIST DICTIONARY

#### Aura:

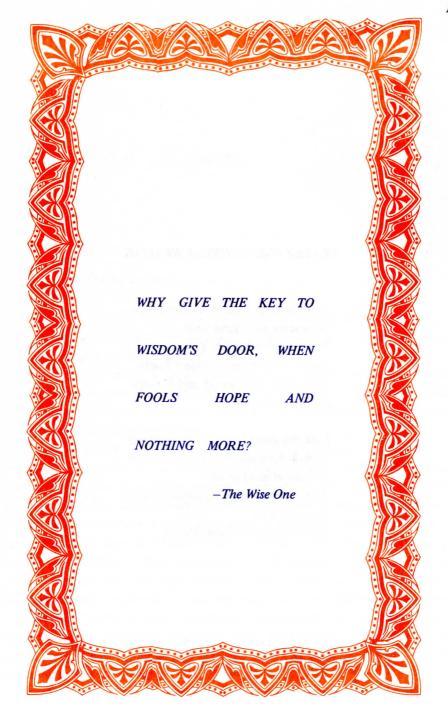
A field of radiation round the human body, sometimes visible as bands of color to clairvoyant sight. Akin to the 'Aureola' emanations spoken of by medieval saints and mystics. Experimental investigations were made by Dr. W. J. Kilner of St. Thomas' Hospital, London, which led to his invention of colored screens with slits to render the aura visible to normal sight. There are three main zones: that closest to the body extending ¼ to ½ in., corresponding with the etheric double, next to the inner aura, a band of about three inches, then the outer band extending to a foot or more. Dr. Kilner found it varied in color and brilliance during illness and mental or emotional stimulation, shrinking to nothing at the approach of death. Mediums confirm these findings and can often discern impending changes physical and mental by study of a person's aura.

#### Death:

To Spiritualists, death is merely the casting off of the earthly garment—the physical body, leaving the etheric body (or double), a duplicate form still associated with the mind and spirit of the individual but functioning now in a different sphere. This separation of the etheric from the physical self, has been witnessed at the deathbed many times by people with clairvoyant tendencies. After death, the personality and the character of the individual are not changed, but there is no longer the need to eat, sleep or work for the maintenance of this new body. It feels solid and moves in the same way among seemingly solid surroundings. The mind, however, has a more direct power of action upon the environment and modifies this according to its habitual mode of thought. Thus, a person might find himself dressed in familiar clothes among recognizable surroundings, but finds that a strong creative mental effort is needed to construct further.

#### Heaven:

Traditionally the location of Deity. Today, it is more often defined as a blissful mental state. Spirit communications mention several successive spheres of life beyond the earth and speak of a continuous, apparently boundless, evolution into more ideal states that would seem to approach the idea of heavenly bliss and possibly absorption into the Great Spirit from which we come. As we are told that the Great Spirit permeates all matter, there cannot be any one location we could name as Heaven, but a comprehensive consciousness of the entire universe might produce the nearest concept possible of such an ultimate state. Many great teachers have maintained that 'the kingdom of Heaven is within.'



# PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL HEALING

I ask the great Unseen Healing Force To remove all obstructions From my mind and body And to restore me to perfect health. I ask this in all sincerity and honesty And I will do my part.

I ask this great Unseen Healing Force
To help both present and absent ones
Who are in need of help
And to restore them to perfect health.
I put my trust
In the Love and Power of God.

# Healing Hands



by Pauline Leonard

Spiritual Healing has opened a wider spiritual concept in another way. It has been found that sicknesses with our lesser brethren—the animal kingdom—yield to spiritual healing in the same way that we do.

There are a number of Healers who possess a special aptitude for animal healing. The important consideration arising from this is that animals must possess spirit faculties that enable them to be receptive to healing forces directed from the dimensions of spirit.

This is in accord with logic, for there is no rigid division that divides the animal kind from the human kind—indeed they are akin in almost every way. They are born through a similar process. They possess the same bone structure with vertebrae, ribs, skull and all the rest. They possess similar organs to ours, eyes to see, ears to hear, a heart to maintain a circulatory system with arteries, capillaries, veins, lungs to breathe, kidneys, stomach. They have brains that are capable of thinking. They give expression in courtship, loves and dislikes. They experience pain and relish comfort. They communicate with each other. Thus emotionally, intellectually, and physically they are a like part of creation.

The higher intelligent species love human companionship and are able to understand us and our intentions. Therefore, life to them does not terminate with the earthly existence. It may be true that the degree of spirit potentiality will vary according to the development of the species.

(Continued from Page 8)

not only speak with different voices and accents, and in every language, but remarkable good singing and whistling are often heard.

Apparently the modus operandi of the spirits when communicating with the direct voice is to materialize sufficiently to be able to speak. They evidently create a larynx or its equivalent, from ectoplasm withdrawn from the medium or sitters, just as they do at materialization seances when they show themselves fully formed and talk with the sitters.

Many tests have been made to prove that the direct voice is not produced by the medium's vocal organs. Often a sitter will hold his hand tightly on the medium's mouth. Sometimes his lips are sealed with plaster, and sometimes he has held water in his mouth, which is ejected after the voices have been heard and the light is switched on. The question has been definitely settled by an experiment with Mrs. Crandon ("Margery," the wife of Dr. Crandon, the famous Boston surgeon), whose long-continued self-sacrificing efforts to assist in solving the mysteries of her mediumship deserve the highest praise. She held in her mouth the end of a flexible tube connected with a vertical glass tube half full of water. As she blew into the tube the water rose, and while the voice spoke in the darkness the water level was seen, by means of a luminous float, not to vary. The flexible tube was incompressible and had a glass mouth piece with three holes in it, so placed that one could be covered with the tongue and the other two with the lips. If any hold was uncovered for a second by movement of the lips or tongue as required for speech, the water level fell and thus indicated the fact.

### DIRECT WRITING

In the presence of a suitable medium spirits can write directly without intervention of the human hand. This is known as psychography or direct spirit writing. Just now the phenomenon is very rare, formerly it was often seen. The method usually adopted was to lay a blank sheet of paper on the table, all present held hands, the light was extinguished, raps signalled the completion of the writing, and the light was then turned up for inspection. The celerity with which such writing was done is amazing, a rate of 100 words per second being recorded, and elaborate drawings were made as quickly. Sometimes a luminous hand has been seen to lift the pencil, write a message and then disappear.

The most convenient way of obtaining spirit writing is by means of ordinary school slates. To describe one of the many procedures: two slates are laid on the table face to face, so that the wooden frames only are in contact, and a tiny fragment of slate pencil is put in the space between them.

(To be continued in next issue)



The Academy of Parapsychology and Medicine is expanding its program of seminars on the art of Acupuncture to include more clinical workshops. The sessions will gather 90 to 100 physicians together with four or five experienced acupuncturists who will demonstrate treatments on volunteer patients. The Academy says the presentations should provide the professional with an opportunity to develop criteria for evaluating the potential worth of acupuncture in his practice. The Queen Mary in Long Beach has been chosen as the site for the next workshop, dates are July 7 and 8.

As a result of extensive professional interest in the ancient Chinese art, the Academy is also moving to sponsor a California Acupuncture Advisory Council, the purpose of which will be to provide information to the professional as well as recommend guidelines for licensing and practice.

The Center for Spiritual and Human Growth will present a Mandala Workshop on July 14, from 10 to 4, under the leadership of Jose Arguelles, Ph.D., at the First Congregational Church, San Rafael. Mandala in the broad sense in "all-encompassing space which accommodates the self-existing cosmic structures, radiating different energies..." The workshop will cover both philosophy and application in art work.

Spiritual Frontiers Fellowship is planning a retreat at Queens College, Charlotte, North Carolina, August 12 through 17, on the theme "The Gifts of the Holy Spirit." Seven well-known speakers, together with workshops and spiritual and psychic counseling will be offered. Further information and a program of events may be obtained by writing Luther Creel, Chairman, 3010 Crosby Drive, Apt. 218, Charlotte, North Carolina 28211.

Professor Peter R. Phillips of the Department of Physics, Washington University, St. Louis, is conducting a search for psychic photographers.....those who are able to mentally project an image onto film. Ted Serios and other psychics have demonstrated this ability and the professor is hoping to find others. If you have this ability, the professor would appreciate hearing from you and indicates that he will provide the film for the study.

#### A GUIDE TO MEDIUMSHIP AND PSYCHICAL UNFOLDMENT

by E. W. & M. H. Wallis

# Intellectual Icebergs

Sitters may be open-minded towards the sensitive instrument, and, on the plane of intellect, sincerely desirous of the best results; they may, with thoroughly honest intent, seek to elicit phenomena which will satisfy their judgment of their spirit origin, and yet they may be so constituted psychically, so lacking in sympathy, that their conditions will not harmonize with those of the medium. Their influence may be disintegrating, instead of unifying.

The inquirer of this type may say, 'I cannot understand it; I desire to discover truth and honestly wish to be convinced, and yet to mediums I am a "closed book" or an iceberg, for in my presence they freeze up, and can give me nothing.' But his spirit friends, in seeking to demonstrate their presence and to prove their identity, find that his mental conditions—cold, self-centered, and undemonstrative—affect and hinder, rather than help, their efforts to reach and convince him. Spirit people respond most easily to the spiritual frame of mind, and it is when the sympathetic spiritual relationship can be established that they are able to make the most successful demonstrations of their power. Spiritual association depends largely upon the law and power of love; the unselfish spiritual emotion which prompts one to give. True love of the soul knows no reservations; it gives itself, unhesitatingly, and with complete faith. If the student can meet the loving spirit on this plane, with unselfish impersonal motives; without making demands, but ready to receive what they give; if he can meet them by aspiration, the angels can respond by inspiration.

It is, however, important to recollect that people of all sorts and conditions pass into spirit life, and if we open the doors that communicate with the unseen we must expect all sorts and conditions of spirits to press forward to reach us. William Denton used to say, 'Spirits are but men and women with their jackets off.' Hence communications from them should be held no more authoritative and sacred than the teachings of mortals. Both should be tested by reason and common sense, and accepted or rejected accordingly.

The Rev. John Page Hopps says: 'I want to get myself and others accustomed to the thought that if people exist in another world they exist there as a "people," not as fantastic, stately, solemn, or dreamy spectres:—that is a man exists beyond the change called death, he is still a man, unchanged except that he has put off his body, and glided behind the veil: for a future life can mean one thing, if it is to be a reality, and not a mere sentiment and solemn self-delusion,—it can only mean the actual going-on of the human being in spite of the incident called "death." If it is not that it is nothing: if it is not that, we are only indulging in vain fancies: if it is

# SERENITY SOUNDS (Letters to the Editor)

#### Dear Editor:

"For many years I have subscribed to the NSAC publication, "The Summit." Two months ago a friend sent me a subscription to your "Serenity Sentinel." I should like to suggest that you list your magazine in The Summit, so that other people could be aware of it and enjoy it as much as I."

K. S., San Diego, California

Your suggestion is under consideration. Thank you. -Editor

# Dear Sentinel Staff:

"I understand that you print the Sentinel yourselves and I would like to express my sincere appreciation for your efforts and especially the beautifully colored covers."

N. P. K., San Francisco, California

#### Gentlemen:

"I'm interested in the philosophy of Spiritualism but have been unable to find a Spiritualist church in my vicinity. Could you please tell me if there is such a thing as a reading program available for people like myself who do not have a church in their town?"

R. S., Fallon, Nevada

A special reading program is being sent you with a list of books available on the subject of Spiritualism from our book department.

—Editor

# Dear Serenity:

"Read the article in the Marin County Independent Journal on Mr. Goodwin, and I thought it was fantastic! I wish that more Spiritualists would get moving in this 20th Century. Keep up the good work!"

J. G., San Rafael, California

# Dear Editor:

"I have been subscribing to the Sentinel for the past four months. I enjoy it immensely, but I wonder why it is not for sale in the church I visit?"

D. M. S., Hollywood, California

The Serenity Sentinel is available to all NSAC churches in special bulk rate. We are forwarding an introductory copy of the magazine to the church in your area.

-Editor

### FROM FIRE-MIST TO MAN

# **EVOLUTION SPIRITUALLY INTERPRETED**

by Andrew Jackson Davis

Continued from last issue-

It is well to remark here, that these bishops were nothing more than human beings, nor were they sufficiently refined to merit many high encomiums. After they had assembled, they were so violent and vociferous that had it not been for the emperor's presence they would have engaged in open battle. For each had prejudices so strong in favor of certain peculiar doctrines, and all were so anxious to have their preconvictions prevail, that justice and purity were entirely excluded from their proceedings.

Constantine was obliged to disqualify seventeen hundred and thirty from having a voice in deciding which books were and which not the word of God, and only three hundred and eighteen were left. These decided that the books which composed the Bible as subsequently known were the word of God.

Several books, however, since that time have been rejected. Out of fifty gospels then extant, they decided that those only of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John were worthy of being preserved; while they rejected entirely the books of James, Jude and the Apocalypse.

After this decision, Constantine arose and solemnly declared that the same should be considered as sanctioned by the Divine Will; that the books thus fixed upon should thereafter be implicity believed as the word of God. Those manuscripts that were rejected, among which were three well written gospels, were committed to the flames.

In this general condition the Bible remained until the year 633. During the interval there were frequent councils called which often annulled the decisions of each other—each establishing new propositions and passing new rules to be observed until the assemblage of another council. Thus modifications of the form of the Bible were produced from time to time, as well as in the number of books composing it.

At the council of Toledo, in the year 633, the books of James, Jude, and the Revelation of St. John, were again received into the canon. Then the Old and New Testaments were established in nearly the same form in which they exist today. They continued, however, for many centuries unread and unknown by the great mass of mankind; it was not until the 14th century that the first English version was made.

During the intermediate period portions of the Bible were copied into the German, Danish, and Saxon languages.

#### THE A. B. C. OF SPIRITUALISM

by B. F. Austin, A.M., D.D.

30. Why do my spirit friends go to a medium and not to me?

There are two false assumptions in this question. Your spirit friends do not as a rule go to the medium and your spirit friends do not come to you. If your spirit friends do go to a medium it is for the purpose of bringing you and the medium together that they may reach you in communication. Ordinarily your spirit friends, drawn by love and natural ties of relationship, come to you. They speak and attempt to manifest their presence in a variety of ways. They find you cannot see them, hear them or sense them. And after repeated vain attempts to manifest they seek some one whose senses are open to perceive their presence. It is a mistake to speak of a medium as bringing your spirit friends to you. When you get a message from a medium your spirit friends in all probability, went with you to the meeting—possibly impressed you to go—and often resort to various devices to bring about an opportunity to communicate with friends on the earth plane.

# 31. What attitude does Spiritualism take toward other Religions?

A friendly and appreciative attitude, recognizing the rights of other religionists to think and act for themselves. Spiritualists rejoice in all good accomplished by the churches and various religious cults, freely acknowledging the fact that all of them are necessary in a sense to meet the varying needs of men in different stages of intellectual and spiritual unfoldment. While gladly recognizing the truth given out and the good done by others, Spiritualists claim equal right to point out the errors and fallacies of the old religions and to present with boldness and fidelity the newer and fuller gospel of the Harmonial Philosophy of the world.

They believe the Churches today represent primary schools and that as men do graduate out of these they naturally will progress toward the broad and inspiring Philosophy of Life contained in Modern Spiritualism.

32. What is the attitude of Spiritualism toward Miracles and the Supernatural? In the sense in which Miracles have been believed in and taught by the Church—as abrogation or suspensions of natural law—Spiritualism denies their existence. All occurrences both on the physical and the spiritual plane are under law.

Miracles as wonderful happenings, seemingly contrary to the known laws of nature, are freely admitted. But in every case such happenings, it is held, are in accord with laws unknown.

There is no arbitrary suspension or annulment of law in the universe.

# The Living Light

In this new book are the wonderful teachings of the Old Man, which were given as progressive lessons to a class in spiritual unfoldment through the Mediumship of Richard P. Goodwin. It has been nine years since the beginning of the Old Man's instruction directly through trance-voice. Again and again we are introduced to a continuing and tantalizing series of new subjects, lovingly explained and carefully attuned to our understanding.

The Old Man (we are never told his name) is one known as a Teacher of Light. He is a fine teacher; in a hundred ways he intertwines his allegory, progressive explanation, unfolding exercises and timely references to reach many levels of individual minds. "Think more often and think more deeply," he tells us.

In "The Living Light," he makes clear that his lessons are not dogma, creed beautiful form of instrucor a narrow way, but his individual progression. tion to aid us in our own "The Living Light" is unique, the first of the individual and fresh expression Great Teacher from understanding of a understanding deother dimensions, in centuries of veloped in him realms. The lesstudy in higher the Living dig ceived are not sons to be pervery old, but new, they are and new to they are alive our being. This certain levels of now, in our time, for is why they are given is not easy, but it is those who seek. The way beautiful. In this book, gently taught in simple, direct and continuous inspirations language is a course of study and directive reading, for the study of the unfoldment of the spirit and psychical awareness, the Divine spark in every man.

# Selected Passages:

"What does it benefit your life to add a multitude of things and experiences if in the adding there is no light, there is no peace, and there is no lasting purpose." "Man can only be affected by that with which he is in rapport."

Order now your copy of the limited deluxe first edition "The Living Light." \$10.50 per copy, plus \$.30 handling and mailing. Mail order to: Serenity Publications, P.O. Box 137, Forest Knolls, California 94933.

(Continued from Page 16)

not that, we may be pleasant poets singing of a fairyland, but we are not actual pilgrims going to "a better country, that is a heavenly."

# Is Mediumship Desirable For All?

'M. A. (Oxon)' said: 'I do not think it would be reasonable to say that it is wise and well for everyone to become acquainted with mediumship in his own proper person. It would not be honest in me to disguise the fact that he who meddles with his subject does so at his peril. I do not say that peril is anything that should always be avoided. In some cases it is not, but I do say that the development of mediumship is sometimes a very questionable benefit, as in others it is a very decided blessing.'

This is therefore a case in which we may safely say, 'let everyone be fully persuaded in his own mind,' and act accordingly, with a due sense of the difficulties and responsibilities of the task. But do not venture if you are afraid. Fear hath torment. Fear makes cowards of us all, 'and blinds us to our being's best estate.' It lays us open to the enemy before we can strike a blow in self-defense. Ignorance is no protection against danger. The liability to the intrusion and control of undesirable people (both in and out of the body) is a constant risk, whether we know it or not. We may intensify the liability be seeking mediumistic unfoldment, but we do not totally avoid it by declining to become mediums, as the 'dweller on the threshold' is near us all the time.

The 'ostrich' policy of refusing to see danger will not avail us. To be forewarned is to be forearmed, and here, as elsewhere, knowledge, confidence, and pure purpose will enable us to avoid pitfalls and overcome obstacles. Boldly facing the foe, we find that the 'perils' assume a far less threatening aspect. The people of the lower spheres are powerless to harm us when we extend our sympathy and love towards them, but exercise our will, and discreetly hold the fort of your own psychic nature.

We, however, deem it right and necessary that those who essay to tread this should know of its difficulties as well as its delights.

In the main we are aware that the dangers are those of ignorance and folly; of perversion, abuse, selfishness, and unspiritual practices; but that is not quite all that has to be said, as there are times when those who are sensitive—owing to ill-health, lack of tone, temporary difficulties, the influence of associates and surroundings, or some such causes—may become subject to influences (from this and the other side) that may affect them injuriously. But, as a rule, nothing is to be gained by dread, or by anticipating such contingencies (except that one may not be taken by surprise), and when they do occur, one has but to summon the forces of will, and, by supplication to the higher powers, obtain such inspirations and strength as to take captive those who seek to 'possess' or injure, and triumph by love.

Cook Book Capers

by Edie Faubel

### SOUR CREAM CHOPS

6 pork chops
1½ cups onion clices
1 garlic clove, minced

1 garuc ciove, min 1 tsp. dill seed 1 tsp. paprika

½ tsp. salt

½ cup water

1 cup sour cream

Brown chops on both sides in hot oil. Lower heat and add onions, garlic, dill seed, paprika, salt and water. Cover and cook for 60 minutes or till tender. Stir in sour cream to make a gravy. Simmer about 8 minutes. Serves 6.

# TROPICAL FRUIT SALAD

Papaya

Banana Pineapple Mango

Cantaloupe

juice of 1 lemon

Dice all fruits and place in bowl. Sprinkle with lemon juice to prevent discoloring. Chill well and serve. Especially good with steak.

# TOMATO SALAD WITH OREGANO DRESSING

4 large firm tomatoes

4 Tbsp. olive oil

1 Tbsp. oregano

Salt and pepper to taste

Wash, dry, and slice tomatoes; arrange on platter. Sprinkle with salt, pepper, and oregano. Pour olive oil over all. Chill in regrigerator. Serves 4.

### INVOCATION

Through meditation in the depths of silence, we would rise to greater wisdom and spirituality. Into the vast universe of truth we would send our spirits to be bathed in the purifying currents of love, that we may live the life for which we yearn and toward which our souls aspire. We would be made strong by the inflowing of Infinite Love; we would patiently endure whatever falls to our lot, knowing that the path of rectitude leads up and out to glorious beauty, freedom and light. We would not selfishly strive to achieve, nor shirk the labor fraught with pain and suffering. With the strong arms of faith and tenderness, we would hold all the souls that reach out to us for help or strength. Though we sometimes may be weary and discouraged, yet through every wearisome and discouraging hour the bright light of knowledge shines and makes the way clear. We are thankful for the renewed spiritual power which comes to us when we enter the silence to hold communion with the spirit world. We pray that we may be instrumental in bringing many others to a realization of this great truth, that we may bring peace to the troubled heart and comfort to the suffering soul. Amen.

#### INTO THE SILENCE

In the silence would I walk with thee. There would I adorn my thoughts with noble ideals. There would I develop and strengthen my character.

What power there is in silence: there, resolutions are formed, sublime conquests effected. Here the soul secretly feels the power of Infinite Intelligence and emerges strengthened. In the silence commune with thyself; find there thy mission in the world. There let the message come to thee that thou shalt give unto those who have become seekers after the light. In the silence find the flowing pathway of the spirit. Humble though thy work may be, lowly thy mission in the world, thou shalt learn its meaning, and thou shalt be contented to labor and to wait. Thy soul shall be blessed with the rich increase of celestial knowledge, all perplexities shall vanish, all troubles shall cease, all sorrow be assuaged. The clouds shall lift and ineffable light encompass thee. Thy soul shall find its own, and commune with the loved ones in the voiceless language of the soul. From the silence thou shalt return, seeking no longer far and wide thy mission in the world, for thy message in glowing, burning eloquence speaks in every act.

#### **BENEDICTION**

May normalcy of health, peace of mind and calmness of spirit attune you with the Infinite that all may be well with thee. Amen.



# Busy Bees

by Bee Dorbandt

Mr. Richard Goodwin, President and Founder of Serenity Spiritualist Association, was featured in a three-page article in the Marin County "Independent Journal," June 2, 1973. The well-written article told of Mr. Goodwin's early life, his unfolding mediumship, and the founding of Serenity Association two years ago. The article also told of his spiritual work at the Golden Gate Spiritualist Church, San Francisco, under the guidance of the late Reverend Florence Becker. Many persons who had never attended a "service" at a Spiritualist church, and were new to the religion, science, and philosophy were at the devotional services the evening of Sunday, June 3rd. This is the one-evening devotional service of the year. Most everyone, in the filled auditorium, received a "message" from Mr. Goodwin through the blindfold billet readings. Two student mediums served with Mr. Goodwin that night. We would like to sincerely thank Mr. Don Keown for his positive, open-minded and very well-written article.

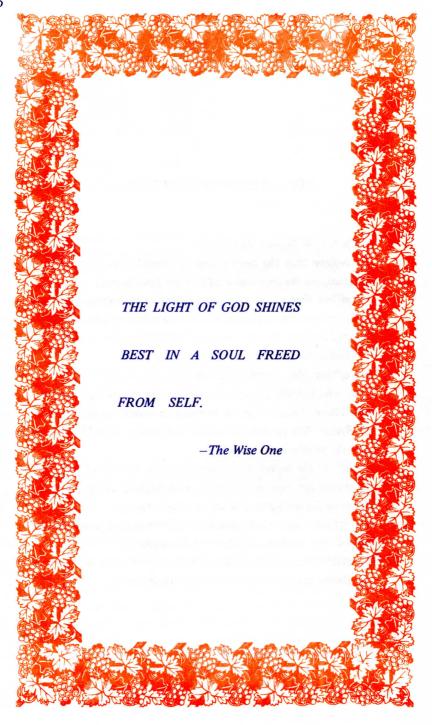
The next dinner social is July 28. The theme is "A Night in Vienna." This dinner will be held at the Log Cabin, San Anselmo, at 6:30 P.M. Mrs. Vera Abels, a well-known soprano will sing arias in keeping with this theme. There will be other entertainment, and the food will be delicious, as usual...home made. Games will be played and prizes awarded. Plan to attend this dinner... bring a friend, and make your reservation by either calling Serenity's office (924-4422) or see one of the church workers at the Sunday morning devotional services.

On July 1st, Easter Jestadt will become a member of the ever-growing family of Serenity. She has been a long and faithful worker, and has decided that in unity there is strength, when there is an ideal to be fulfilled. Welcome, Easter!

The Spiritual Chapel of Awareness, Vacaville, will have a Benefit-Social at the Pena Adobe, July 22nd from 2:00 P.M. until dush. The Pena Adobe is halfway between Fairfield and Vacaville, via Highway 80. They also invite you to their "Fellowship Hour" the first Friday of each month immediately following the regular devotional services.

### **DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES**

- 1. We believe in Infinite Intelligence.
- 2. We believe that the phenomena of nature, both physical and spiritual, are the expression of Infinite Intelligence.
- 3. We affirm that a correct understanding of such expression and living in accordance therewith constitute true religion.
- 4. We affirm that the existence and personal identity of the individual continue after the change called death.
- 5. We affirm that communication with the so-called dead is a fact, scientifically proven by the phenomena of Spiritualism.
- 6. We believe that the highest morality is contained in the Golden Rule: "Whatsoever ye would that others should do unto you, do ye also unto them."
- 7. We affirm the moral responsibility of the individual, and that he makes his own happiness or unhappiness as he obeys or disobeys Nature's physical and spiritual laws.
- 8. We affirm that the doorway to reformation is never closed against any human soul here or hereafter.
- 9. We affirm that the Precept of Prophecy contained in the Bible is a Divine attribute proven through Mediumship.



#### BECOMING A SPIRITUALIST

# Inner Vision by H. Gordon Burroughs

There is always a new beginning and every day is a new moment in the great eternity of God. The things of yesterday have already passed, and out of those experiences of yesterday we may build a structure more beautiful today. As far as the mistakes of yesterday are concerned, we must naturally remember the lessons learned. Let us not dwell upon the past. The now is the moment. The next moment, if we are not in this sphere of activity, we shall be in some other sphere in God's ever-present now. The effort of this moment will make it possible, if it is a good effort, to find a beautiful reality into which we shall soon pass.

There are numerous movements in the world today which are preaching the wonderful truth of inner vision. Because of the rush in which we are engaged, very few in the Western World have been able to appreciate the meaning, the beauty of those truths, believing that the precepts presented are of no practical value. The opposite would actually be the result, if we made up our minds to accept, to put into practice and to live those truths.

Most of us are seeking that will-of-the-wisp, happiness. Most of us are spending our lives over non-essentials. We are so submerged in the small things with which we are surrounded that we fail to grasp the broader, more beautiful truths, and receive the blessings which may be ours, if we but pause and fold our hands and wait remembering that no wind that blows can drive our bark astray or change the tide of destiny. If we could only realize this truth and serenely wait, knowing that those who belong to us will come some time and that we shall know each other and be a joy one to the other!

To appreciate the things that one feels he wants to accomplish, one must passively wait. Those things which we so desire are really never accomplished by too much hurry. While serenely waiting, one should also hold ideals ever formulated within the subjective consciousness, knowing that at the right time, when that state of consciousness is reached in which one can appreciate in full what is desired, the desire is fulfilled.

People wear themselves down physically in the present-day rush; the body finally weakens and we pass to the other side of life with the task unfinished, the desire not seemingly fulfilled. Our attitude should be that of passive, calm, contemplative waiting, with faith and confidence in the power which placed us here, the power by which we move and act and have our being, which is Infinite Intelligence or God.



# Lest We Forget

Gregory J. Adkins

Roy W. Adkins

Black Hawk

Grace Calvert

Edie Irene Clark

Luigi Enciroli Lee Faubel

Frank Fogel

George

Richard C. Gillespie

Dolores Pearl Goodwin

Harold Goodwin

Isa A. Goodwin

Anna Graham

Edith Mary Holmes

Helen Jank

My Father

James Pearce

Sunny Ross

J. B. Schmitz

Elizabeth Smith

Fea Peterson Steele

Ralph J. Stewart

Margaret L. Walker

To send a helpful thought of joy and light to those you love who have passed to the higher life, list their names in this column. Donation of one dollar per name.

# (Continued from Page 4)

material world that we are in. The purpose of the science of Spiritualism is to show mankind that he is affected and controlled by laws and things that he cannot see with his physical vision, that he cannot hear with his physical ears. My good friends, if you are truly interested, you will demonstrate the law unto yourself. You will find what it is really all about. You will not be satisfied with the surface of things. You will have the wisdom of patience, the perseverance, the determination to look and to think more deeply.

Many times it has been said from this podium that man is a law unto himself; that whatever man sets into motion, he experiences and how true that is. We live in an age when the scientists have finally accepted that man is an electromagnetic energy. Spiritualism has taught for one hundred and twenty-five years that no thought ever goes in vain; that man, himself, views the world from varying states of awareness; that those levels of mind or states of awareness are changing moment by moment; that man has within his being the power to set into motion anything that his mind chooses to do; that all things are possible to the one who truly awakens. Now, regardless of your religious affiliations, if you are serving them with sincerity, then they will serve you in kind. But if you are serving them with the thought of how much you are going to receive, then it will be, my friends, so very, very little.

There is no religion known to man today or yesterday or any day that is not founded upon so-called invisible dimensions. And these so-called invisible dimensions are known by man today to be the psychic and the spiritual worlds. So, any religion in the world today or yesterday that denies the existence of a spirit world or the so-called dimensions that are invisible to the physical sight cannot in truth be a religion, for religion means to bind back to the source—to the nuclei—to God. How does man see God? How does man know God? When man awakens to a state of consciousness within himself, he may call that great joy—that great peace that passeth all understanding—an awareness of God. And so it is, once man has found God inside, man will know God outside. Thank you.





# The Scent of Roses

Let Fate do her worst: there are relics of jov. Bright dreams of the past. which she cannot destroy: Which come in the night-time of sorrow and care. And bring back the features that joy used to wear. Long, long be my heart with such memories filled, Like the vase in which roses have once been distilled-You may break, you may shatter the vase if you will, But the scent of the roses will hang round it still.

-Thomas Moore

#### God's Witnesses

I need not shout my faith. Thrice eloquent are quiet trees And the green listening sod: Hushed are the stars, Whose power is never spent; The hills are mute: Yet how they speak of God!

-Charles Hanson Towne

# Hold Out a Light

Hold out a light, The way is dark, No ray to guide Yon struggling bark. Rough rocks are near. And wild waves roar; Hold out a light To show the shore.

Hold out a light; Your brother may Win back to land With your small ray; New courage find Life's storm to face With strengthened faith To win the race.

# -Addison Howard Gibson

# The Way Back

To keep my health...To do my work... To live! To see to it I grow, and gain, and give. Never to look behind me for an hour. To wait in meekness and to walk in power. But always fronting onward toward the right: Always and always facing

toward the light. Robbed, starved, defeated, fallen, wide astray. -On with what strength I have, back to the Way!

#### FABLES FOR YOUNG AND OLD

#### BELLING THE CAT

Long ago all the Mice came pattering from fields and pantries to hold a council meeting. They sat around under a washtub with a candle for a light and very solemnly asked: "What shall we do to keep ourselves safe from Pussy? She hides in secret places and suddenly springs out on us when we do not know she is near. What are we to do?"

Well, the Mice all wiggled their whiskers and blinked their eyes very gravely. Some said, "Let us do this!" And some said, "Let us do that!" But at last a young Mouse named Big Whiskers proudly rose to his feet.

"Friends and fellow Mice," he was very sure indeed that he knew more than all the rest. "I know just what we should do. Let us tie a bell by a ribbon around the neck of our foe. Then she will not be able to move without jingling that little bell. Whenever we hear the bell tinkle, we will always know she is near and so will have plenty of time to scamper out of her reach." With this, Big Whiskers sat down twirling his showy mustache.

"Three cheers for Big Whiskers! We vote to follow his plan! Hurrah!" cried the other Mice and they all began to talk at once about whether to get a brass bell or whether to get a silver bell, and whether to use a blue or a pink ribbon to tie the bell on the Cat. But at last, a very old Mouse, who had not spoken before, got up from his seat.

"Wait!" he cried in a voice that startled the rest like thunder. "Big Whiskers' plan is fine, but I've only this question to ask. Pray with all your talking, will one of you answer me this—who is going to be the one to put the bell on the Cat?"

For a moment the Mice looked foolish and nobody spoke a word. Who indeed would dare to go straight up to Pussy and tie the bell on her neck? Big Whiskers slunk away and hid himself in a corner. Not a single Mouse dared! Then the old Mouse looked around, peering up over his spectacles and very sadly he said: "It is all very well to TALK about doing great things, but all that really counts is to DO them."

"Progress, in the sense of acquisition, is something; but progress in the sense of being is a great deal more. To grow higher, deeper, wider, as the years go on; to conquer difficulties, and acquire more and more power; to feel all one's faculties unfolding, and truth descending into the soul—this makes life worth living."

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# Serenity Books

### SPIRITUALISM AND RELATED SUBJECTS

"BOOK ON MEDIUMS"	
by Allan Kardec, translated by Emma A. Wood	. \$7.60
"A CATECHISM OF SPIRITUAL PHILOSOPHY"	
by W. J. Colville	
"PSYCHIC SELF-DEFENSE"	
by Dion Fortune	\$6.30
"SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY GUIDE FOR NORTH AMERICA"	
by The Spiritual Community	\$3.10
"THE STRANGE STORY OF AHRINZIMAN"	
by Anita Silvani	. \$5.50
"SILVER BIRCH ANTHOLOGY"	
edited by William Naylor	\$1.05
"THE UNIVERSITY OF SPIRITUALISM"	
by Harry Boddington	

Book lists available on request. Make check or money order payable to: Serenity Spiritualist Association, P. O. Box 137, Forest Knolls, CA 94933 Please add \$.30 per book for postage and handling.

# **EVER-RECURRING QUESTIONS**

by Andrew Jackson Davis

QUESTION: "Will it be asking too much to solicit from you some illustration or explanation of the speech or voice of a spirit? I read of 'spirit voices,' etc., but my mind can form no idea of what the sound can be."

ANSWER: The speech of spirits drops upon the internal tympanum like music from over the sea. The words are distinct as bugle notes, but they affect the mind as childhood's kisses do the lips, leaving a sweet presence and benefaction behind them. Words of wisdom spoken by angel lips exceed the melody of all earthly music. If you can fancy the voice of silvery streams flowing over cascades of golden sunbeams, or the musical throbbings of deathless joys flowing through the roseate chambers of the pure heart, then you may conceive somewhat of 'spirit voices,' as heard by those who have ears to hear. We know not how radiantly beam the countenances of those who converse wholly in the language of the soul. It is the most expressive, and the least demonstrative. The griefs and cares of the heart—its fairest flowers and the saddest experiences—tremble together in the crystal chalice of pure speech. The voice of a spirit is like the spirit of truth—most eloquent when manifested in deeds—for thus the higher intelligences communicate their thoughts to those beneath them.

The universal speech of Spirits is an elemental out-birth of the internal—a language of thought and feeling—which takes the form of that language with which the guest is most familiar. For example: a person speaking the native Portuguese will, upon entering the spirit-land, imagine that every other spirit, with whom he converses, is acquainted with only the Portuguese language and idiom. The modus loquendi must be universal in the other sphere, otherwise a universal language is an impossibility. Water is a universal solvent because it is not partial and arbitrary, but readily takes any shape, and freely penetrates to every center; so with Spiritual language, in its ultimate freedom. It takes the form of any conceivable tongue, idiom, or speech, and thus establishes instant fellowship between Spirits of exactly opposite nations, with different education.

#### TOLERANCE

by S. E. Kiser

If you can go to heaven your way,
I know of no good reason why
I ought to curse you, or display
Contempt when you are passing by;
I have no wish to see you barred
from future everlasting joy,
Although you seem to find it hard
To use the faith that I employ.

As long as you are not inclined
To have me damned and scourged and burned,
I'll try to have an open mind
Where our two creeds may be concerned;
No pious hate nor holy wrath
Shall make me wish to bruise your soul
Or put obstructions in the path
By which you hope to reach your goal.

If, kneeling at your mother's knee,
You learned a faith that keeps you strong,
No effort shall be made by me
To prove that your belief is wrong;
I shall not question nor deny
The saving grace that fills your thought,
Though you may hold beliefs that I
Have never had, and never sought.

Hold fast the faith that you possess,
If you can find sweet hope therein,
And freedom from the bitterness
That plunged bigots into sin;
If your way leads to heaven, proceed,
Nor any of your hopes resign;
I have no doubt that there, indeed,
Are many other ways than mine.

by S. E. Kiser

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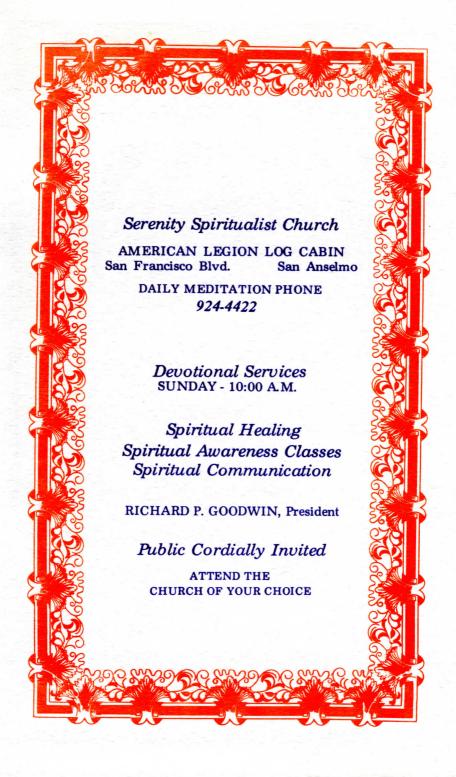
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